

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 2-14, 16, 18-21 and 23 are pending in the application, with claims 2, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 being the independent claims. Claim 1 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to change their dependencies in light of the cancellation of claim 1. Support for the amendments can be found in the original claims because the amendments merely state explicitly that which was implicit in the original claim.

The specification has been amended to add the appropriate priority information.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments add no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested. Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Cynthia M. Bouchez
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 47,438

Date: August 10, 2007
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

693578_1.DOC